

27 May 2021

Fred Vander Sterre
Stated Clerk, Classis Huron
e. classishuron@gmail.com

Dear Churches of Classis Huron,

In September 2007 I received and accepted a call from the Christian Reformed Church of Australia (CRCA) to the position of Ministry Training Coordinator. Since then, I have partnered with the CRCA in assisting them in the pursuit of their vision: *"A church reforming to reach the lost for Christ"*. Since my arrival to Australia in December 2007 I have engaged the CRCA in an ongoing implementation of this vision. I have attached a copy of my current contract, position description, and my current contract renewal. The full extent of my ministry here can be ascertained from our website: www.ministryformation.com.au.

I am aware that the decision of Classis Huron in October 2007 to approve the loaning of my ministerial services to the CRCA was for an initial period of two years, after which extensions of not more than two years each may be granted if circumstances warrant. The last request, I believe, was made in 2019 which means that the time has come again to request for a further extension. My current contract with the CRCA extends through the end of 2023, contingent on triennial confirmations by the CRCA Synod. Our triennial Synod meets again this May 2021. While my contract is through the end of 2023, I have given the CRCA notice that I will continue employment with them until the end of December 2022, when the Lord willing, I will move into retirement. In the lead up to that date I will be requesting Classis Huron to approve my retirement from full-time ministry in the CRCNA.

I would like you to be aware that my current contract is such that I am also in a position to consider ministry opportunities again in the CRCNA, albeit I do see myself continuing in my ministerial role with the CRCA until my retirement. My **request** is that Classis endorse allowing us to continue our status in the CRCNA of being loaned temporarily to serve the CRCA while retaining my ministerial status in the Christian Reformed Church (CRCNA) for the remaining one year (December 31, 2021 – December 31, 2022) The grounds for this request remain the same:

1. This is in keeping with the regulations of Church Order Article 13b.
2. The CRCA is a denomination with close ecclesiastical ties to and history with the CRCNA.
3. The duties of the Ministry Development Coach are spiritual in character and directly related to the ministerial calling and do not conflict with Rev. De Vries' commitment to the faith and practice of the CRCNA.
4. Rev. De Vries' ministerial credentials will remain with Bethel CRC.
5. The regulations regarding the CRC Pension fund will be upheld. The CRCA will continue to contribute the determined annual amount to the minister's pension fund and will channel these funds through Bethel CRC.

I have also forwarded this request to the council of Bethel CRC requesting that they endorse this request. Thank you for considering this request and I await your response.

Kindly yours,



Jack De Vries

Ministry Development Coach
Christian Reformed Churches of Australia
49 Hunter Circuit
Petrie, QLD 4502 Australia
O: (+61) 7 3285 3678
M: (+61) 437 339 008
H: (+1) 519 279 4427
E: mtc@crca.org.au
W: www.ministryformation.com.au

Attachments: Current Contract Renewal Letter
 Position Description